

Authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of \$390.00 plus any additional fee, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 10-0750/CDS-59/AJM, in the name of Johnson & Johnson. A response is now due April 25, 1997, and therefore, this Amendment is being timely submitted.

Please amend the subject application as follows:

In the Claims:

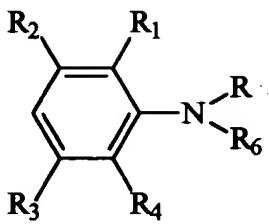
Please cancel claims 1-8 and 12 ~~without prejudice~~.

Please amend claims 9-11 and 13-17 as follows:

9. (amended) A dry multilayer analytical element [of claim 1] for the determination of acetaminophen in an aqueous fluid, comprising a support having thereon, in order from said support and in fluid contact:

(a) a [one or more] layer[s] having therein (i) an arylacylamidase enzyme; (ii) a ferricyanide capable of oxidatively coupling paraaminophenol to a color-forming coupling agent [coupler] to form a color compound; and (iii) a water-soluble, color-forming coupling agent [as defined in claim 1; and], at least one layer comprising gelatin and said water-soluble, color-forming coupling agent having the general formula:

T/C240



wherein R is a water-solubilizing group selected from (1) - $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{X}$, where n is 1 to 5, X is either (I) $-\text{SO}_3\text{M}$ where M is hydrogen, an alkali metal, an alkaline earth metal or an ammonium (NH_4^+) cation, or (II) $(-\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_y\text{OH}$ where y is 2 to 5; and (2) - $\text{N}(\text{R}_7)_3^+\text{Z}^-$ where each R_7 is independently selected from alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and Z is an acid anion;

R_1 and R_6 are taken together to represent an ethylene, trimethylene, or tetramethylene group which forms a partially saturated ring; and

R_2 , R_3 , and R_4 are independently selected from hydrogen, alkyl of 1 to 4 carbon atoms, and alkoxy of 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

(b) a porous spreading layer; and

(c) a buffer which maintains the pH of the element in a range of between about 6.5 to 8.5.

2. (amended) The element of claim [3] ⁹ wherein the ferricyanide is a ferricyanide salt of an alkali metal.

3. (amended) The element of claim [3] ⁹ wherein the coupling agent is 1-(3-sulfopropyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline.

~~4~~ 13. (amended) The element of claim [3] ~~9~~ further containing maleimide.

~~92~~ ~~5~~ 14. (amended) [A] The dry multilayer analytical element of claim [1] ~~9~~ for the determination of acetaminophen in an aqueous fluid comprising a support having thereon, in order from said support

(a) a first and second reagent layer wherein[:] the first reagent layer [having] contains therein 1-(3-sulfopropyl)-1,2,3,4-tetrahydroquinoline[;], and the second reagent layer [having] contains therein [ascorbic acid oxidase or] a ferricyanide salt and arylacylamidase; and

(b) a porous spreading layer.

~~6~~ 15. The element of claim ~~14~~ further containing maleimide.

~~7~~ 16. The element of claim ~~15~~ wherein the maleimide is in the spreading layer.

~~8~~ 17. (amended) A method for determining acetaminophen in an aqueous liquid comprising the steps of:

~~03~~ (a) contacting a sample of [the] aqueous liquid with the analytical element of claim [1, 2, 3,] ~~9~~ [or 14]; [and]

(b) determining the amount of color compound formed; and

(c) [(b)] correlating the amount of color compo[lo]und formed to the concentration of acetaminophen in the fluid.